



# **CITY COUNCIL**

## **CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**COUNCILMEMBER DJOU:  
TOO MUCH TRAVEL BY MAYOR IN 2004**

Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki to Hawaii Kai) thanked the Mayor for finally releasing the financial sources that funded his travel in 2004, but criticized the mayor for taking so many trips on the taxpayers' dime. "In 2004, Harris appears to have made almost as many trips as the U.S. Secretary of State. While the public should understand that the Mayor of Honolulu might occasionally travel, it is disappointing to see the huge volume of trips taken by Harris this year. I hope the next mayor will take more time to attend to affairs in Honolulu and be more forthcoming with travel financial details."

According to information filed with the City Clerk this morning, Harris took 27 trips in 2004, including 12 trips to foreign countries as far flung as Sweden, Saipan, Canada and Australia. Nearly \$23,000, in taxpayer money was used to finance these numerous trips taken by Harris. The mayor's office released this information only after three written requests over five months by Councilmember Djou, including a Freedom of Information Act demand filed with the Office of Information Practices last month. OIP had instructed the mayor to release the information on the financing of his trips on or before Friday, December 10, 2004, but the mayor's office refused to do so until today. At 10:00 a.m. this morning the City Council will consider a resolution requesting an audit of the mayor's travel.

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